



APPROVED 06-08-04
KING COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2004

EXCHANGE BUILDING, CONFERENCE ROOM 6A

Members Present: Shauna Cheney, Joshua Freed (awaiting Council confirmation), Jack Fuller, Michael Haan (awaiting Council confirmation), Melody Cecilia James (awaiting Council confirmation), Howard Miller, Jim Nobles, Eleanor Owen, Ron Sterling, Gwendolyn Williams

Members Absent: Helen Nilon, (excused), Clifford Thurston (excused)

Guests Present: Orisade Awodola (board nominee), Joan Clement (KCASAAB), Alberto Gallego (board nominee), Pam Pratt (private citizen), Jerry Yager (County Building Security)

Staff Present: Steve Collins, Geoff Miller, Rhoda Naguit, Jean Robertson

I. WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Board Chair Howard Miller convened the meeting at 4:37 p.m. and asked everyone to introduce him/herself.

II. MINUTES

Eleanor Owen made a motion and was seconded to approve the March 9, 2004, meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Likewise, Jack Fuller made a motion that was seconded by Jim Nobles to approve the April 15, 2004 joint board meeting minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A. Board Seating Configuration

Board Chair Howard Miller stated at the Executive session this afternoon it was proposed that in the future only board members, both confirmed and pending; selected Division staff; and KCASAAB Liaison will sit around the conference table. Jack Fuller expressed his opposition to the proposal stating that this move will give the appearance of exclusiveness. Discussion followed. Eleanor explained the rationale behind the proposal. The proposed set up is to provide distinction between the guests and the board members and to avoid confusion on who can vote.

Howard put to a vote the proposal to limit the seating at the conference table to both confirmed and pending board members, selected Division staff, and KCASAAB Liaison. Eight voted in favor of the proposal and one opposed.

B. Vote on Board Appointments

Howard announced that at the Executive Session held prior to the regular meeting this afternoon, it was unanimously voted to recommend the appointments of Carolann Freedman, Orisade Awodola, and Alberto Gallego to the board.

Jack Fuller made a motion that was seconded by Eleanor Owen to accept the recommendations to appoint Carolann Freedman, Orisade Awodola, and Alberto Gallego to the King County Mental Health Advisory Board. The motion was passed unanimously.

C. Nomination of New Officers

The Nominations Committee met this afternoon prior to the regular board meeting to nominate board officers. The new board officers will start their term this coming July. The Nominations Committee is recommending Ron Sterling for chair, and Eleanor Owen for vice chair. Vote will be done at the June board meeting.

D. Board's Standing Committees

Howard stated that board business is done through the standing committees; namely, Quality Council, Nominations Committee, and Recovery Initiatives Committee. He reminded the board members that they are expected to be involved in one of these committees. He encouraged the members to let him know if interested in participating in any of the standing committees.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Legislative Advocacy & Public Affairs Committee

The committee had a general discussion on restructuring the committee to be more effective. There will be a conference call with Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration/Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (SAMHSA/CSAT) contractor on May 19th regarding Recovery Month activities in September. The committee will also discuss National Depression Screening Day which will be held in October. Eleanor encouraged other board members to be involved in the committee.

B. Nominations Update

Rhoda Naguit reported that Joshua Freed and Michael Haan were both interviewed by the members of the Law, Justice, and Human Services Committee (LJHSC) last

May 6, 2004. They both successfully presented their strengths and values to contribute to the board. Their board appointments will be presented before the full Council on Monday for a vote. All board appointments must be confirmed by the County Council.

C. Quality Council

Ron Sterling reported that the committee is in the process of putting together a summary of the public forums. Feedback will be compiled and the board will be provided a copy.

Approximately 28 people attended the NAMI-South King County forum, and about 70-80 people participated at the NAMI-Greater Seattle forum. The forums were represented by a well-blended number of consumers, family members, and providers. The forums provided a venue and opportunities for people to be heard.

Copies of Quality Council (QC) brochure were distributed at both forums. Howard recommended sending a copy of the brochure to agencies.

Ron would like to update the QC website before he vacates his QC chair post. He commented that he experienced difficulty in coordinating the posting of information on the website. Jean inquired if any information was ever sent to Sherry Hamilton, who is in charge of the department's website. He responded that he had sent her a set of recommendations, but no documents for posting. Documents such as the brochure, the annual report, and case manager turnover follow-up could be sent as Adobe Acrobat documents. Jean encouraged him to send the information to Sherry who will see to it that the information is posted in the website in a timely manner.

D. Recovery Initiatives Committee

Eleanor outlined the goal of the committee. The committee will recommend that RSN contracts reflect the provisions stated in the Recovery Ordinance passed by King County Council in 2000. She read an excerpt of the ordinance. The goal of recovery is to make clients less dependent upon the publicly funded system.

The Global Assessment Functioning (GAF) score was an issue that caused a heated discussion among the committee members. Medicaid will pay only for GAF scores of 61 or less; yet many clients are functioning at a much higher level. However, getting people into skill building or employment in the community is compromised due to financial constraints, which is another area of concern for the committee. The group agreed that there is a need to find some creative ways of funding these service needs.

Eleanor encouraged more board members to be involved on this committee. Jack Fuller and Orisade Awodola volunteered to join. The committee is also seeking representation from the business community e.g. Lowe's, Home Depot, etc. Doug

Stevenson from King County Council Committee Staff has expressed interest to be a part of the committee.

The Recovery Initiatives Committee meets every first and third Wednesday of the month at 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. at the Exchange Building, 6th floor.

V. PRESENTATION – “Criminal Justice Initiatives Training” – Beverly Miller

Jean Robertson introduced Beverly Miller. Beverly works with Dave Murphy on the Criminal Justice Initiatives.

Beverly gave an update on the progress made under the Criminal Justice Initiatives Project. Handouts were circulated. She explained the contents of the handouts. The first page contains a list of pre-existing programs which include Community Center for Alternative Programs (CCAP), another term for Day Reporting, the Drug court service is in lieu of incarceration, and the Mental Health Courts which provide mental health treatment. The new program and/or services includes CCAP which has grown and is providing more services such as intensive outpatient chemical dependency treatment, criminal justice liaison –mental health evaluations; intake services which provide improved screening and assessment in the jail for misdemeanants and felons; drug court program which provide co-occurring disorders services and housing vouchers; the mental health court which provide similar services as drug court; the methadone program which provides methadone dosing and vouchers; the community linkages provide Criminal Justice Liaisons – Mental Health vouchers for non-specialty courts, discharge planning; and the benefit applications program provides ADATSA assessment and DSHS applications. A detailed description of these programs and/or services was also included in the handouts.

How many of the people with mental illness enter the program? The answer is about 50%. Six to seven percent booked into King County Jail are diagnosed with a serious mental illness but are not qualified or eligible to receive services.

What services are included in the methadone program? The methadone program provides treatment to those who have no access to methadone treatment prior to coming to the jail. The client is given a voucher to access methadone treatment after release.

Beverly asked the board to review the handouts to direct any questions to Jean Robertson.

Does this program include outcome results? Yes. Outcome results of this program will be made available in September. The Division hired a fulltime person to do an outcome evaluation.

Beverly discussed the details of the training component under the criminal justice initiatives. She will email the schedule of the training to board members. This training is intended to bolster collaboration and communication between providers and staff and to assist people who work with the population to talk to each other and work together for the sake of their clients.

Who does the referral of the clients to access these services? A referral team is being formulated to handle this task. A Seattle Police Department Crisis Intervention Team is trained to deal with people with mental illness.

VI. STAFF REPORT – Jean Robertson

A. Updating Recovery Ordinance

Jean Robertson stated that Doug Stevenson would like to revisit the County's Recovery Ordinance. She asked the board, particularly the Recovery Initiatives Committee, to work with her in putting together an updated ordinance. She would like the document to reflect the process of recovery. Eleanor expressed a reservation in changing the ordinance at this point considering that part of the current ordinance has not been implemented yet. Michael Haan agreed with Eleanor's position.

B. Update on MHD/CMS Issues

Jean discussed what the Division is doing in light of the recent CMS policy change regarding the use of Medicaid savings. Prior to the approval of State Medicaid waiver the State has had the prerogative to spend the money not used for Medicaid for other services. Under the new CMS policy, the Division can no longer spend the savings for other services. The money unspent will have to be returned to the Feds.

Jean handed out a list of estimated total and non-Medicaid expenditures. She explained each item. The document is an exercise to identify which of the services/programs provided and which of these cover non-Medicaid services. The Federal government would like to see each State fund their non-Medicaid services/programs. The summary of expenditures shows a multi-million dollar shortfall between state dollars received and the amount of non-Medicaid service that is being provided in King County.

VII. LIAISON REPORTS

Howard Miller, Downtown Emergency Services Center

DESC is getting more exposure from the press lately. The agency has been awarded funding from SAMSHA. DESC will be celebrating its 25th anniversary along with the 10th anniversary of the Union Hotel. For months, the neighborhood

group led by the Benaroyas has fought against the establishment of a wet house at the 1811 Eastlake Avenue site however, DESC has won every lawsuit initiated by the neighborhood coalition so far. Because of resulting delays in the construction schedule, federal funding deadlines have lapsed and DESC has been forced to return monies that have been allocated. As always, Howard is impressed with the skills and resolve of the DESC management team, led by Bill Hobson who is observing his 20th year with the agency.

Jim Nobles, Chronic Populations Action Council

Jim was unable to attend the last meeting due to illness.

Helen Nilon, Seattle Mental Health

Helen was not present due to illness.

Gwendolyn Williams

THS is upgrading their reporting system and re-doing their computer programming to support the reporting system. The agency's dilemma is how to continue providing for unfunded services.

VIII. BOARD AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS/NEW BUSINESS

NAMI Greater Seattle is holding a plant sale on Saturday, May 15, 2004 in Ballard-WAMI site. Everyone is invited.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Prepared by:

Rhoda A. Naguit
Recording Secretary

Attested by:



Howard Miller
Board Chair